

REMARKS

Claims 1, 9-10, 25-26, 33-34, 51, 53, 56, 74-77 and 96-97 are currently pending in this application.¹ The Official Action requires a restriction of these pending claims to one of the following claim groups:

Group I: Claims 1, 9-10, 25-26, 33-34, 56, 77 and 96-97, directed to compositions of a polymer solid electrolyte, polymer solid electrolyte battery, and a copolymer;

Group II: Claims 51 and 53, directed to compositions containing a cross-linked polymer obtained by reaction of a cross-linking agent with a copolymer; or

Group III: Claims 74-76, directed to an ion-conductive membrane.

In order to be completely responsive to the Requirement for Restriction, Applicants provisionally elect to prosecute claims corresponding to invention Group I (claims 1, 9-10, 25-26, 33-34, 56, 77 and 96-97) directed to compositions of a polymer solid electrolyte, polymer solid electrolyte battery, and a copolymer. However, Applicants respectfully traverse the Requirement for Restriction, and reserve the right to petition therefrom under 37 C.F.R. § 1.144.

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal or, in the alternative, modification of the Requirement for Restriction pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.143. A search and examination of all the pending claims can be made without an undue burden to the Examiner. Under PTO examining procedures, “if the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the Examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims directed to distinct or individual inventions.” See, M.P.E.P. §803 (8th Ed. Rev. 6, 2007). In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that the Requirement for

¹ The Official Action does not include claim 96 among the list pending claims set forth on page 1 of that document. Applicants assume this is a typographical error, since page 2 of the Official Action includes claim 96 among claim Group I. At any rate, Applicants note that claim 96 was introduced in the Second Preliminary Amendment dated July 25, 2006. The claim has not been canceled in any subsequent amendment. Applicants therefore respectfully submit that claim 96 is one of the currently pending claims of this application.

Response to Restriction Requirement

Application No.: 10/543,823
(Docket No.: 20241/0207045-US0)

Restriction should be withdrawn or, alternatively, modified so that all of Applicants' invention can be examined together in this application.

Respectfully submitted,

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By

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